



October 1, 2015

The Honorable Sylvia Mathews Burwell
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20201

RE: Michigan's 2nd amendment waiver enabling continuation of the
Healthy Michigan Plan

Dear Secretary Burwell:

On behalf of Bronson Healthcare Group, I am writing in support of Michigan's waiver amendment for the continuation of the Healthy Michigan Plan. Bronson Healthcare Group is a not-for-profit, community-governed leading healthcare system in southwest Michigan offering a full range of services from primary care to critical care across more than 60 locations.

Our community has seen a dramatic decrease in uninsured rates; 57,398 people in southwest Michigan are now covered through Healthy Michigan and are accessing preventative care and treatment for acute and chronic conditions, many for the first time. In the absence of Healthy Michigan these individuals will once again be uninsured and forego much needed health services. As we work to improve health outcomes in our community, it is imperative that the most vulnerable have affordable health insurance options that fit within limited budgets. The Healthy Michigan Plan has accomplished this and ensures that everyone regardless of income has access to quality physical and mental health services. The loss of this program would have devastating consequences for our community and reverse the progress we have made toward ensuring health equity for all.

In conclusion, I urge you to approve the 2nd amendment waiver to ensure the continuation of Healthy Michigan and provision of health insurance to more than 600,000 people throughout Michigan.

Sincerely,

Frank J. Sardone
President and CEO
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